

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 5, 8-16 and 19 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim 20 is allowed.

Claims 1, 2, 17 and 18 are rejected.

Claim 4 is objected to.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8-20 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Claims 1-2 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Claims 4-5, 8-16, and 19 are canceled.

Claim 1 is amended.

Claims 21-23 are added.

No new matter is added.

Claims 1-2, 17-18, and 20-23 remain in the case for consideration.

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-2 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chamberland, et al. (US 4,690,482).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations from allowable claim 4. As indicated below, claim 1 is now in proper form for allowance.

Claims 2 and 17-18 depend from claim 1. Based at least in part on their dependency, the Applicants submit that claims 2 and 17-18 are also now in proper form for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 4 remains objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 20 is allowed.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the patentable subject matter of these claims. As discussed above, the limitations of allowable claim 4 have been added to claim 1 so as to put claim 1 in proper form for allowance.

New Claims

Claims 21-23 are added. Claims 21-23 respectively contain similar limitations to claims 2, 17, and 18, but depend from allowable claim 20. As claims 21-23 depend from allowable claim 20, the Applicants submit that they are likewise in proper form for allowance.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-2, 17-18, and 20-23 of the application as amended is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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